

THE
MONTHLY



Volume 34

San Francisco, California, November, 1952

Number 11

October — STINSON BEACH — Trip

On Sunday, October 12, 19 members and guests met at Stinson Beach. Noteworthy were Mr. Whitehead from Corcoran deep in the Central Valley, and Sandy Sprunt, the new National Audubon Society Assistant Representative in this area. Although there was a low and heavy fog in the East Bay and in San Francisco, the clouds here were thin and high, and burned off entirely by 11 o'clock. The group walked up the beach to the end of the sand spit and came back along the lagoon. This is only possible near low tide in order to avoid trespass. A few loons and western grebes were seen on the open sea, but there were lots of birds in the lagoon. Many ducks were present, nearly all pintails. Two rare hawks, pigeon and red-shouldered (red-bellied), were seen. Later we drove up to the old toll-gate on Mt. Tamalpais and birded in the woods nearby at 1600 - 1700 ft. Golden-crowned kinglets were common here and several male Townsend warblers were seen. All interesting migrant and winter visitants, also a western tanager, rarely recorded at this late date.

The following 70 species were observed:

Common and red-th. loons; horned, eared and west. grebes; wh. and br. pelicans; double-cr. and Brandt (dead) cormorants; great blue heron; Amer. and snowy egrets; pintail; white-wg. and surf scoters; red-br. merganser; t. vulture; red-sh., pigeon and sparrow hawks; semi-pl. plover; killdeer; black-bellied plover; long-bl. curlew; willet; gr. yellow-legs; least and red-bk. sandpipers; dowitcher; marbled godwit; sanderling; glauc.-wg., west., Calif., ring-bl. and Heerman gulls; band-tl. pigeon; Anna hummingbird; red-sh. flicker; Calif. and downy woodpeckers; bk. phoebe; Steller jay; raven; crow; ches.-bk. chickadee; red-br. nuthatch; br. creeper; wren-tit; winter and Bewick wrens; varied thrush; golden-cr. and ruby-cr. kinglets; Townsend warbler; west. meadowlark; red-wing; Brewer blackbird; west. tanager; purple finch; pine siskin; Amer. goldfinch; sp. and br. towhee; savannah sparrow; Ore. junco; wh.-cr., golden-cr., fox and song sparrows.

A. LAURENCE CURL, *Leader and Historian.*

September — BAY FARM ISLAND — Trip

One dozen people met at Lincoln Park in Alameda on Saturday morning, September 27. After first proceeding along Frontage Road on the East Oakland side of San Leandro Bay the party went to Bay Farm Island where most of the birding was done. A beautiful sunny day with a light breeze along the shore made birding the more enjoyable.

Generally speaking the species seen were the same as those reported on the Sunday trip to the same area in August. However one Clapper Rail was heard and over fifty Common Terns were observed. Both Black and Ruddy Turnstones were seen, at least nine of the latter species were found at the point where sandy areas are forming near the old destroyers.

Two of the party went on to Alameda and succeeded in finding Snowy Plovers.

Forty species were observed.

Pied-billed grebe; Calif. brown pelican; double-cr, cormorant; great blue heron; pintail and shoveller ducks; Calif. clapper rail; coot; snowy, semi-palmated, killdeer and black-bellied plover; ruddy and black turnstone; long-billed and Hudsonian curlew; willet; gr. yellow-legs; least sandpiper; dowitcher; west. sandpiper; marbled godwit; sanderling; avocet; west., California, and ring-billed gulls; Forster, common, and Caspian terns; red-shafted flicker; scrub jay; ruby-cr. kinglet; house sparrow; meadowlark; Brewer blackbird; house finch; brown towhee; savannah sparrow.

— HARRY C. ADAMSON, *Leader and Historian*.

In Natural History, September 1952, Richard H. Pough, Curator, Department of Conservation, writes "NEW HOPE for the BALD EAGLE" "A new regulation on Bald Eagles in Alaska, recommended by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and put into effect by Secretary of Interior Oscar L. Chapman pursuant to his authority under the Alaska Game Law, should have the effect of nullifying the \$2 bounty imposed by the Territorial Legislature and lessen the existing threat to the bird's existence . . . It is hoped that the bounty law will now be actually repealed. Under it, premiums have been paid on more than 100,000 birds since 1917."

THE SUPPER SOCIAL GATHERING at the lovely garden of Dr. and Mrs. T. Eric Reynolds on September 26th was pronounced a delightful success by 150 members and guests. The evening was unusually mild with the moon and the stars gleaming thru the trees and the crickets accompanying the chatter.

Mr. David Stearns, with his pleasing voice, Mr. James Berry, with his Scotch bagpipe and Mr. Bert Harwell, with his whistling entertained most graciously and the Panel experts informed and amused us. Those who stumped the experts were Miss Jean Matheson, Mrs. E. C. Stowell, Mr. Harry Adamson and Mrs. Frank Scott, all of whom received a twisting whistle, with which to entice the birds from their hiding places. A resolution expressing appreciation to Dr. and Mrs. Reynolds for their gracious hospitality was voted at the October meeting. The net proceeds of about \$100 will be placed in the fund for scholarships for the Audubon Camp at Norden for the next summer.

OBSERVATIONS

Edited by JUNE W. KELLY

2 Pectoral Sandpipers, Oct. 2, Alameda near speed-boat landing, Laura Stephens.

Cedar Waxwing, Sept. 13, El Cerrito; Spotted Sandpiper, Orinda Lake; Crow, near Orinda, Sept. 28, A. Laurence Curl.

Golden-crowned Sparrow, Sept. 28; Hermit Thrush, Oct. 4, Gwinn Road, Oakland, Estella Bruce.

1 Red-shouldered Hawk; 1 male Wood Duck, Sept. 20, Middle Chain of Lakes, Golden Gate Park; 3 Fox sparrows, 1 Western Tanager, Sept. 27, 1 Golden-crowned Kinglet, Oct. 12, Golden Gate Park; 2 Wandering Tattlers, Oct. 11, Cliff House; 2 male Wood Ducks, Oct. 16, Metson Lake, Joel Hedgpeth.

1 Yellow-bellied (Red-breasted) Sapsucker, Oct. 14, Redwood Canyon, Oakland; 1 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker; small flock Golden-crowned Kinglets, several w. Evening Grosbeaks, Oct. 15, Ross, 1 Pileated Woodpecker, Oct. 15 near Phoenix Lake, Ross. June W. Kelly.

DELEGATES: Mrs. T. Eric Reynolds and Miss Mary Meehan will represent the Golden Gate Audubon at the National Convention in New York, November 15 - 18.

Owing to its many activities and consequent lack of adequate space, the National Audubon Society will in the near future move into new quarters, at 1130 Fifth Ave., which recently has been purchased.

"Although the Society is primarily associated with bird protection in the public mind", states Mr. Baker, National President, "our scope of work embraces advancement of public understanding of the value and need of conservation of soil, water, plants and wildlife and the relation of their intelligent treatment and wise use to human welfare."

"The National Audubon Society, which is the oldest and largest national conservation organization, has more than 50 employees at headquarters and nearly an equal number in the field. It maintains branch offices in Miami, Florida and San Francisco, California."

"MIGRATION OF BIRDS" by Frederick C. Lincoln, published by Fish and Wildlife Service in 1950, is an informative and fascinating circular of 101 pages. "A brief presentation of facts on the migratory habits of the birds scientifically gathered by the Fish and Wildlife Service over many years."

The headings; Mystery of Migration; Origin of Migration; When Birds Migrate; How Birds Migrate; Where Birds Migrate, etc. with charts of the great Flyways and of individual species. This valuable "Circular 16", may be purchased from the Supt. of Documents, Washington 25, D.C. for 35 cents.

NEW MEMBERS: We welcome the following; from San Francisco, Miss Alice M. Purenen; from Berkeley, Mrs. Clarence Bullwinkle, Mrs. Dudley Cameron, Mrs. Charlotte Hafford; from Orinda, Mr. B. W. West; from Indio, Dr. Henry M. Weber.

NOVEMBER MEETING

The 422nd meeting of the Golden Gate Audubon Society will be held in the Commissioner's Room of the San Francisco Public Library, Civic Center, on November 13th, at 7:30 p.m. After the business meeting, Mr. George W. Treichel, Jr. will speak on "Biological Research and Travels in Arctic Alaska." The talk, which is based on field work conducted by the University of California this past summer, will be illustrated with kodachrome slides. The public is invited. No-host dinner at the Mayflower restaurant, 1018 Market St. near Sixth—about three blocks from the Library, at 6 p.m.

—DOROTHY DEAN SCOTT, *Program Chairman.*

LOS BANOS GAME REFUGE

On Sunday, November 16, to the State Game Refuge near Los Banos. This should be an outstanding trip as multitudes of waterfowl should be present at this date. Snow Geese, Teal, Gallinules, and Sandhill Cranes are sometimes observed.

Driving time from the Bay Region is approximately three and one-half hours. Either Route 33 south from Tracy and via Altamont Pass or the Pacheco Pass route east from Gilroy may be taken. We will meet at Tiny's coffee shop or drive in, in Los Banos at 9:30 A.M. Please be prompt as our birding time is limited in these days of shortened light. We will proceed by car caravan from Los Banos to the refuge.

Leader, Carlyle Sather, Walnut 1-4683. Bring lunch, warm clothing, binoculars, telescopes, and interested friends.

ORINDA LAKE

On Saturday, November 29, to Orinda Lake and adjacent territory including the south end of San Pablo Reservoir. Here just east of the Berkeley hills may be found such species as California and Nuttall Woodpeckers which are unusual in the Bay Region. Canada Geese and other waterfowl are to be seen on the reservoir and Hooded Mergansers are sometimes to be found on Orinda Lake.

Meet on south side of Orinda Theatre at 9:30 A.M. From there we will go the short distance to the lake by caravan.

Leader, Frank Scott, ASHberry 3-1253. Bring lunch if desired, binoculars, telescope, and interested friends.

—HARRY C. ADAMSON, *Chairman,*
Field Trips Committee.

Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc.

Established January 25, 1917

For the Study and the Protection of Birds Branch of National Audubon Society

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Monthly meetings second Thursday, 7:30 p. m.

Joint Membership, Local & National \$5.00 per Year, includes Audubon Magazine

Local dues only, \$1.50 per year
